

Simple Shear Response of a Hyperelastic Dielectric Media Revisited

by Brian M Powers, David A Hopkins, and George A Gazonas

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14. ABSTRACT Several authors have published theories for the finite deformation response of hyperelastic electroactive media. Among these theories, there is no general consensus on how the electromagnetic fields are mapped between the spatial frame and the material frame. In this report we examine 2 of these theories that differ by how polarization is mapped between frames and apply them to the problem of the simple shear of an infinite parallel plate capacitor with electrostatic assumptions. We show that the predictions from these theories differ from both each other in the relationship between polarization and electric field as well as the result obtained for small deformations.					
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1. Introduction

In *Mechanics of Continua*, Eringen¹ presents a large deformation theory for electromagnetics coupled with continuum mechanics. While similar approaches have been taken by other authors in the literature, there is no consensus on how to treat electromagnetic fields in solids subjected to finite deformations. The discrepancies among these approaches almost always include transformation rules for polarization, though there are also inconsistencies for the transformation rules of the other fields as well.²⁻⁵

Eringen presents an application of his theory in the case of a simple shear deformation. The boundary value problem (BVP) solved corresponds to an infinitely large parallel plate capacitor with an isotropic dielectric where one plate is sheared relative to the other as shown in the Figure. Inertial and velocity effects are neglected. This BVP is a simple, easily solved problem that can be used to assess different hyperelastic theories, including Eringen's, since in a hyperelastic theory, the field quantities, e.g., polarization, electric field, and stress, can be determined in the material (Lagrangian) frame, and the spatial (Eulerian) frame as a function of deformation once a form of the free energy function has been assumed.

In this report, we detail the solution of the simple shear example problem using the hyperelastic theories of Eringen¹ and Clayton.³ Both theories predict a polarization response that is not collinear with the electric field in the spatial frame. Furthermore, this effect is first order in the deformation and does not reduce to accepted small deformation theory where there is no distinction between the spatial and material frames.

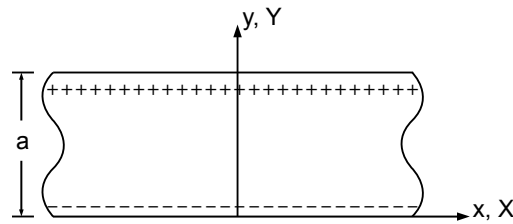


Figure. Schematic of the dielectric slab

2. Nonlinear Theory and Material Frame Representation

In general, the deformation at a material point (see, for example, Malvern⁶) is defined by a transformation from the material coordinates, X^I , to the spatial coordinates, x^i , through the mapping

$$x^i = x^i(X^I) . \quad (1)$$

Throughout this report, lowercase subscripts refer to the spatial system while uppercase subscripts refer to the material system. The mapping $x^i(X^I)$ is assumed to be bijective so that the inverse relationship $X^I = X^I(x^i)$ exists. The mapping is also assumed to be smooth and differentiable. The deformation gradient tensor, $x^i_{,I} = \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial X^I}$, is defined through

$$dx^i = x^i_{,I} dX^I , \quad (2)$$

with the inverse deformation gradient tensor given by $X^I_{,i}$. The Green's strain tensor is defined in terms of the deformation gradient tensor by

$$C_{IJ} = x^i_{,I} g_{ij} x^j_{,J} , \quad (3)$$

where g_{ij} is the metric tensor of the spatial frame.

2.1 Electrostatics and Boundary Conditions

For this example, electrostatics is assumed, and all the governing equations are presented with respect to the spatial reference frame. The pertinent Maxwell's equations are in either vector or indicial notation where superscripts and subscripts refer to contravariant and covariant components, respectively, given by

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = 0, \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} (\sqrt{|g|} D^i) = 0 , \quad (4)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{0}, \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \epsilon^{ijk} E_{j,i} = 0 , \quad (5)$$

where the standard rule of summation over repeated indices applies. The relationship between the electric displacement, D_i , electric field, E_i , and polarization, P_i , is

$$D_i = \epsilon_0 E_i + P_i , \quad (6)$$

where ϵ_0 is the permittivity of free space. In the Heaviside-Lorentz units used by Eringen, ϵ_0 is unity.

The boundary conditions are determined from the jump conditions on the material interfaces

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot [\mathbf{D}] = w_f , \quad (7)$$

$$\mathbf{n} \times [\mathbf{E}] = \mathbf{0} , \quad (8)$$

where w_f is the surface charge and \mathbf{n} is the normal to the surface. Following Eringen, a constant uniform electric field is applied, which satisfies Eq. 5. This reduces Eq. 4 to

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P} = \mathbf{0} . \quad (9)$$

Consequently, the polarization is spatially constant as well. If the applied electric field, in the spatial frame as the material is deforming, only has an X^2 component, the components of the electric field in the spatial frame are

$$E_x = 0, \quad E_y = E_y^o, \quad E_z = 0 , \quad (10)$$

where $x \equiv x^1$, $y \equiv x^2$, and $z \equiv x^3$ have been used for notational convenience.

2.2 Mechanical Deformation and Boundary Conditions

As mentioned, the region of interest is defined to be an infinite isotropic homogeneous dielectric slab subjected to a simple shear deformation defined by

$$\begin{aligned} x^1 &= X^1 + kX^2 , \\ x^2 &= X^2 , \\ x^3 &= X^3 , \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where k is the amount of shearing. The associated deformation gradient tensor, $x_{,A}^i$, and Jacobian, J , are

$$[x_{,I}^i] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & k & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} , \quad (12)$$

$$J = \det(x_{,I}^i) = 1 . \quad (13)$$

3. Eringen's Hyperelastic Theory

Eringen¹ presents a general nonlinear theory for isotropic, elastic dielectrics, including both material and geometric nonlinearities.⁷ In this section, this hyperelastic theory is presented and applied to the scenario of simple shear of a dielectric material, which was described in the previous section. A form of the free energy is assumed such that the material is linear and isotropic in the material frame. This assumed form, coupled with simple shear deformation, is then used to determine the finite deformation electric field in the spatial frame. Eringen's theory was developed assuming both the spatial and material frames are Cartesian. Therefore, all the superscripted indices in the preceding sections can be lowered to subscripts. Also, in Cartesian frames, the metric tensors are the identity tensor, e.g., $g_{ij} = \delta_{ij}$.

The deformation gradient tensor is used by Eringen¹ to transform the mechanical and electromagnetic fields between the spatial and material reference frames. For electrostatics, Eringen defines the material to spatial frame transformations as

$$\begin{aligned} E_k &= E_K X_{K,k} , \\ P_k &= \frac{1}{J} \Pi_K x_{k,K} , \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

where E_K and P_K are the electric field and polarization represented in the material frame. J is the determinant of the deformation gradient tensor.

3.1 Thermodynamics

According to general thermodynamic theory, the material properties, stress state, and polarization can be determined from the deformation and the free energy, Ψ , which is the energy available in the system for mechanical work. For electrostatics, the free energy is assumed to only be a function of the Green's strain, C_{IJ} , and the material electric field, E_I .

$$\rho_0 \Psi = \Sigma(C_{IJ}, E_I) . \tag{15}$$

For an isotropic material, Σ must be objective to rotations and therefore can be written in terms of the principal traces. (For a more in-depth treatment of objectivity requirements for isotropic functions, see Itskov.⁸)

The polarization can be obtained in terms of the free energy by

$$\Pi_I = -2 \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial I_4} E_I - 2 \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial I_6} C_{IJ} E_J - 2 \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial I_8} C_{IJ} C_{JK} E_K , \quad (16)$$

where

$$I_4 = \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{E}, \quad I_6 = \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{C} \cdot \mathbf{E}, \quad I_8 = \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{C}^2 \cdot \mathbf{E} . \quad (17)$$

Since it is not the focus of the current work, we simply mention that the stress can also be determined in general form as a function of the energy if needed.¹

3.2 Isotropic Linear Dielectric Material

Assuming the material is an isotropic, linear elastic, homogeneous dielectric, the form of Σ , simplified from Eringen,¹ is

$$\Sigma = \frac{1}{2} \alpha_1 I_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_6 I_2 + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_8 I_4 , \quad (18)$$

where the α_i are material properties, and I_1 , I_2 , and I_4 are the principal traces

$$I_1 = \text{tr}(\mathbf{C}), \quad I_2 = \text{tr}(\mathbf{C}^2), \quad I_4 = \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{E} . \quad (19)$$

Substituting Eq. 18 into Eq. 16 gives

$$\Pi_I = -\alpha_8 E_I . \quad (20)$$

The material parameter $-\alpha_8$ is related to the dielectric constant. The parameters α_1 and α_6 can be shown to be Lamé's constants. With the form of the energy given by Eq. 18, the polarization does not depend on the strain, and the stress does not depend on the electric field. Therefore, the mechanical and the electrostatic responses are uncoupled. The polarization is also collinear with the electric field in the material frame.

Based on the transformations in Eq. 14 and the boundary conditions, the electric field in the material frame is

$$E_X = 0, \quad E_Y = E_y^o, \quad E_Z = 0 . \quad (21)$$

Since the electric field is known from Eq. 21, the polarization in the material frame is

$$\Pi_X = 0, \quad \Pi_Y = -\alpha_8 E_Y = -\alpha_8 E_y, \quad \Pi_Z = 0 . \quad (22)$$

From Eq. 14, the polarization components expressed with respect to the spatial frame can be

determined from

$$[\mathbf{P}]_i = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & k & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ \Pi_Y \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix}. \quad (23)$$

The spatial components of the polarization are thus

$$\begin{Bmatrix} P_x \\ P_y \\ P_z \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} k\Pi_Y \\ \Pi_Y \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} -\alpha_8 k E_y^o \\ -\alpha_8 E_y^o \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix}. \quad (24)$$

It is seen that the final form for the polarization in the spatial frame is not collinear with the electric field due to the P_x component depending on the magnitude of the shear deformation through k .

3.3 Discussion of Eringen's Theory

The finite deformation electrostatic theory presented by Eringen leads to anisotropy of the dielectric material even when an isotropic, linear, homogeneous material is assumed. This anisotropy is why the polarization and electric field are not collinear. Rewriting Eq. 24 so that the effective material properties appear as a matrix,

$$\begin{Bmatrix} P_x \\ P_y \\ P_z \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\alpha_8(1+k^2) & -\alpha_8 k & 0 \\ -\alpha_8 k & -\alpha_8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\alpha_8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ E_y^o \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix}, \quad (25)$$

and defining

$$[\alpha]_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} -\alpha_8(1+k^2) & -\alpha_8 k & 0 \\ -\alpha_8 k & -\alpha_8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\alpha_8 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (26)$$

it can be seen that the $[\alpha]_{11}$ term has a nonlinear dependence on the deformation that has no effect when the electric field is 1-dimensional in the x^2 direction.

Also, note that while the magnitude of the polarization in the x^1 direction increases with the deformation, the energy associated with the electric field is constant. This is because the energy associated with the polarization and the electric field is $\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{P}$, and since there is no E_x component of the electric field, the P_x component of the polarization does not contribute to the total energy.

4. Clayton's Hyperelastic Theory

A hyperelastic approach is also presented for electroactive materials by Clayton.^{3,9} Again, electrostatics is assumed as in Section 2.1, and the applied deformation as defined in Section 2.2, respectively. Clayton developed the theory using general curvilinear coordinates, so this section uses raised indices for contravariant terms and lowered indices for the covariant terms.

The mappings between the spatial and material fields defined by Clayton are

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{E}_A &= x_{,A}^a \hat{E}_a , \\ \hat{P}_A &= x_{,A}^a \hat{P}_a ,\end{aligned}\tag{27}$$

where hats are used for consistency with Clayton. The first of Eq. 27 is consistent with the transformation Eringen used for the electric field, while the polarization transform is different. Also, the transformation for the electric field is consistent with the electrostatic version of Faraday's law (Eq. 5) being form invariant between the spatial and material frames. These transformations are for the covariant components of the fields, noted by the position of the indices.

4.1 Thermodynamics

The constitutive assumptions are

$$\begin{aligned}\psi &= \psi(E_{AB}, \hat{P}_A, \theta, \theta_{,A}, X, \mathbf{G}_A) , \\ \hat{E}^A &= \hat{E}^A(E_{AB}, \hat{P}_A, \theta, \theta_{,A}, X, \mathbf{G}_A) , \\ T^{AB} &= T^{AB}(E_{AB}, \hat{P}_A, \theta, \theta_{,A}, X, \mathbf{G}_A) ,\end{aligned}\tag{28}$$

where ψ is the free energy, \hat{E}^A is the electric field, and T^{AB} is the second Piola-Kirchhoff stress tensor (not symmetric). E_{AB} is the Lagrangian strain defined as

$$E_{AB} = \frac{1}{2}(C_{AB} - \delta_{AB}) .\tag{29}$$

These assumptions differ from those of Eringen, Eq. 15, in that polarization is taken as an independent variable, and the electric field is a dependent variable, while Eringen assumed the

opposite. The relationships between the free energy and the other dependent variables are

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{E}_A &= C_{AB}\rho \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \hat{P}_B} , \\ T^{AB} &= \rho_0 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial E_{AB}} + JC^{-1AC} \hat{P}_C C^{-1BD} \hat{E}_D .\end{aligned}\tag{30}$$

As mentioned earlier, we only indicate that the stress, T^{AB} , can be determined from the free energy, but we do not consider this further. To make the notation similar to Eringen, let

$$\rho_0 \psi = \Sigma .\tag{31}$$

Now assume that

$$\Sigma = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_1 I_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}\alpha_6 I_2 + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\alpha}_8 \tilde{I}_4 ,\tag{32}$$

where

$$I_1 = \text{tr}(\mathbf{E}), I_2 = \text{tr}(\mathbf{E}^2), \tilde{I}_4 = \hat{\mathbf{P}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{P}} .\tag{33}$$

This is equivalent to the form of the free energy for the linear isotropic material used by Eringen, Eq. 18, except the terms containing the electric field are switched to polarization, which are denoted by the use of a tilde over the variable name. Note that $\tilde{\alpha}_8$ is related to the dielectric properties but is not equal to α_8 .

Using Eq. 32, the electric field is

$$\hat{E}_A = F_{aA} \hat{E}^a = F_{aA} F_B^a \frac{\rho}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial \hat{P}_B} ,\tag{34}$$

where

$$F_B^a = x_{,B}^a, \quad F_{aA} = F_A^b g_{ba} .\tag{35}$$

The F_{aA} term appears in Eq. 34 because of the need to lower the contravariant E^b and to perform the pull-back to the material frame. Using the assumed form of the free energy, Eq. 32, the electric field, Eq. 34, becomes

$$\hat{E}_A = \frac{1}{J} C_{AB} (2\hat{P}^B \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial \tilde{I}_4}) ,\tag{36}$$

with the right Cauchy-Green strain defined in curvilinear coordinates as

$$C_{AB} = x_{,A}^a g_{ab} x_{,B}^b .\tag{37}$$

From Eq. 32,

$$\frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial \tilde{I}_4} = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\alpha}_8 , \quad (38)$$

so the electric field can finally be determined by substituting Eq. 38 into Eq. 36,

$$\hat{E}_A = \frac{1}{J} \tilde{\alpha}_8 C_{AB} \hat{P}^B . \quad (39)$$

This is the constitutive relation between \hat{E}_A and \hat{P}^B in the material frame. First, the position of the indices on the fields should be noted since the covariant and contravariant nature of the fields is important with regards to which bases the fields are referred. The implications for this become apparent when mappings between the frames are considered in the next section. Second, Eq. 39 indicates that the deformation is explicitly included in the constitutive relationship between the electric field and polarization in the material frame.

4.2 Simple Shear Example

As before, a simple shear deformation under a constant, uniform electric field is examined to see how the theory is applied. The deformation is as defined in Section 2.2. Additional assumptions include that both the spatial and material frames are Cartesian, as was also the case with Eringen's theory, and consequently the metrics are

$$g_{ab} = \delta_{ab}, \quad g^{ab} = \delta^{ab}, \quad G_{AB} = \delta_{AB}, \quad G^{AB} = \delta^{AB} . \quad (40)$$

This has the effect of making the right Cauchy-Green strain, C_{AB} , the same as Eringen's. Even though Cartesian systems are assumed, curvilinear notation will still be employed since it is essential in the discussion of the relationships between the fields.

We again assume that the spatial electric field is in the x^2 -direction, so

$$\hat{E}_a = \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ E_y^o \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} . \quad (41)$$

Using the transformation for the electric field, Eq. 27, the material field is

$$[\hat{E}_A] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ k & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ \hat{E}_y \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ \hat{E}_y \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} . \quad (42)$$

From Eq. 39,

$$\hat{P}^A = J \frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8} C^{-1AB} \hat{E}_B , \quad (43)$$

where C^{-1AB} is the inverse of C_{AB} , which for simple shear is

$$[C^{-1AB}] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 + k^2 & -k & 0 \\ -k & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} . \quad (44)$$

This gives a polarization in the material frame of

$$[\hat{P}^A] = \frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8} \begin{Bmatrix} -k \hat{E}_y \\ \hat{E}_y \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} . \quad (45)$$

The transformations between the frames given by Eq. 27 are covariant in nature,⁶ requiring the polarization to be shifted from contravariant components to covariant components using

$$\hat{P}_A = G_{AB} \hat{P}^B = \delta_{AB} \hat{P}^B , \quad (46)$$

so that the covariant components are equal to the contravariant ones,

$$[\hat{P}_A] = \frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8} \begin{Bmatrix} -k \hat{E}_y \\ \hat{E}_y \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} . \quad (47)$$

Using Eq. 27, the spatial polarization field is then given by

$$[\hat{P}_a] = \frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8} \begin{Bmatrix} -k E_y^o \\ (1 + k^2) E_y^o \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} . \quad (48)$$

4.3 Discussion of Clayton's Theory

Similarly to Eringen's theory, the polarization is not collinear with the applied electric field in either the material or spatial frames. In contrast with Eringen's theory, the x^2 -component of the polarization has a second-order term associated with the deformation, $P_y = \tilde{\alpha}_8(1 + k^2)E_y$.

Rewriting Eq. 48 similarly to Eq. 26 so that the dielectric material properties appear as a matrix,

$$\begin{Bmatrix} P_x \\ P_y \\ P_z \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8} & -\frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8}k & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8}k & \frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8}(1+k^2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ E_y^o \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix}, \quad (49)$$

and defining

$$[\tilde{\alpha}]_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8} & -\frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8}k & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8}k & \frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8}(1+k^2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}_8} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (50)$$

the full dependency of the polarization on the deformation can be seen.

5. Conclusions

The problem solved is analogous to an infinite dielectric slab polarized by a surface charge (or applied electric field). The boundary conditions for the electrostatics are, consequently, independent of the deformation. The distribution of surface charges relative to one another is not affected by the shear deformation. In other words, a positive charge on the upper surface of the slab has no preference for interacting with a specific negative charge on the bottom surface of the plate. There are 3 issues that will be discussed in relation to the solution to the problem: the anisotropy, the lack of consistency between the two theories, and the lack of consistency with small deformation theory.

It is known that for the elastic tangent stiffness, under isotropic, hyperelastic assumptions, a material can exhibit deformation-induced anisotropy.^{10,11} There are thermodynamic constraints on the free energy that determine when the stiffness tensor retains isotropy under deformation. These constraints limit how the free energy can depend on the deformation. Similar thermodynamic constraints are unknown for the dielectric material properties, but the linear assumptions made in Eqs. 18 and 32 are consistent with the constraints for isotropy of the stiffness tensor. Further study must be done to determine if the dielectric properties should remain isotropic under deformation.

Second, the 2 hyperelastic theories for electroactive materials give different answers for the same simple shear problem. While both theories predict the development of deformation-induced anisotropy (the $[\tilde{\alpha}]_{12}$ and $[\tilde{\alpha}]_{21}$ terms in Eqs. 26 and 50), nonlinear effects appear in different places. For Eringen's theory, the α_{11} term has the nonlinear dependence on deformation $(1+k^2)$. The same dependency appears in Clayton's theory but in the $\tilde{\alpha}_{22}$ term.

Finally, under the assumption of small deformations, the material and spatial frames are the same. For simple shear, this condition applies when $k \ll 1$ in Eq. 11, so that $k^2 \rightarrow 0$. Both theories converge to the same solution under this condition, with the nonlinear terms disappearing. The deformation-induced anisotropy is retained, since it depends linearly on k . This is problematic, though, since there is no difference between the material and spatial frame. Under small deformations, an isotropic dielectric material should retain isotropy under deformation.

The concerns with the solutions discussed previously demonstrate that the theory for electroactive materials coupled with solid mechanics is not settled. One source of the ambiguity is the transformations used for mapping the electric field and polarization between frames. The motivation for the transformation for the electric field is that Maxwell's equations have the same form in both the spatial and material reference frames. Other authors make similar assumptions.²⁻⁵ Since the polarization does not explicitly appear in Maxwell's equations (appearing only through its relationship to \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{D}), there is ambiguity in the literature over how the polarization maps between the spatial and material frames. The problem is more fundamental than determining how the polarization maps between frames, though. Maxwell's equations are not form invariant under the types of transformations defined between the spatial and material frames. This was shown by Einstein¹² in his theory of special relativity. To find a fully consistent set of electromagnetic field transformations, special relativity must be invoked and then simplifying assumptions made for low-velocity cases (e.g., see Wiele et al.¹³). More work must be done to develop a fully coupled electromechanical theory that addresses the inconsistencies existing in the current literature.

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